GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES AND MINERALS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7388
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
REQUIREMENT AND AVAILABILITY OF MINERALS
SAHIB SINGH VERMA

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the present requirements and availability of various minerals namely Dolomite, Bauxite, Gold, Iron, Manganese, Copper, Zinc, Chromite, Lime Stone and Apatite & Phosphorite, separately, State-wise;

(b) the anticipated requirements and availability of these minerals after five and ten years; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to bridge the gap between the requirement and availability of minerals in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS

(SMT. RITA VERMA)

(a) As per information furnished by Indian Bureau of Mines(IBM), a subordinate organisation under the Department of Mines, the consumption and production of the following minerals in 1997-98 at All India level is given below. However, disaggregated information on State-wise requirements and availability of minerals is not centrally maintained.

(in tonnes)

Mineral	Consumption	Production
Dolomite	2848500	3002880
Bauxite	5362800	6112131
Gold	2636 kgs.	
Iron Ore	33596700	75723000
Manganese	1097800	1641963(Ore)
Copper	58705(Metal)	4499716(Concentrate)
Zinc	729903(Metal)	292524(Concentrate)
Chromite	574600	1515286
Lime Stone	95316350	110441000
Apatite & Phosphorite	2974400	1226575

Consumption figure of gold is not available

(b) Demand and supply projections of minerals are done as part of the Five Year Plan exercises. Hence such projections for mineral are available for the Ninth Plan terminating in the year 2001-2002, and not beyond. Such projections also do not cover disaggregated information on requirements and availability of all individual minerals.

(c) The gap between the requirement and availability of minerals is normally met by import of the minerals/metals. The Government has taken long term measures for development of the mines and mineral sector. In 1993, the National Mineral Policy for the non fuel sector was framed. The Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 was amended in 1994 and recently in December, 1999 in order to make the mining sector more investor friendly and progressive. The recent amendments have introduced the stage of reconnaissance operations in line with global practice, delegated more powers to the State Governments for grant, renewal and transfer of mining leases for cutting down procedural delay, empowered the States to prevent and take action against illegal mining etc.